

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3262

To reauthorize the women’s entrepreneurial development programs of the  
Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 14, 2008

Mrs. HUTCHISON introduced the following bill; which was read twice and  
referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

---

## A BILL

To reauthorize the women’s entrepreneurial development pro-  
grams of the Small Business Administration, and for  
other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4       (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5       “SBA Women’s Business Programs Act of 2008”.

6       (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
7       this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

### TITLE I—NATIONAL WOMEN’S BUSINESS COUNCIL

Sec. 101. Annual studies on problems hindering the success of women entre-  
preneurs.

Sec. 102. Additional progress reports.

## TITLE II—WOMEN’S BUSINESS CENTERS

Sec. 201. Revised funding formula.

Sec. 202. Matchmaking formula change.

Sec. 203. Termination of funding.

Sec. 204. Women’s business center awards to be made public.

# 1      **TITLE I—NATIONAL WOMEN’S** 2                      **BUSINESS COUNCIL**

## 3      **SEC. 101. ANNUAL STUDIES ON PROBLEMS HINDERING THE** 4                      **SUCCESS OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS.**

5              Section 409 of the Women’s Business Ownership Act  
6 of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 7109) is amended—

7                      (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-  
8              section (c); and

9                      (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-  
10              lowing:

11              “(b) PROBLEMS HINDERING THE SUCCESS OF  
12 WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS.—The Council shall conduct at  
13 least one study per year that evaluates the problems hin-  
14 dering the success of women entrepreneurs. The Council  
15 shall select the topic for the study in consultation with  
16 the Committee on Small Business of the House of Rep-  
17 resentatives and the Committee on Small Business and  
18 Entrepreneurship of the Senate.”.

## 19      **SEC. 102. ADDITIONAL PROGRESS REPORTS.**

20              Section 406(d)(4) of the Women’s Business Owner-  
21 ship Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 7106(d)(4)) is amended by  
22 inserting before the semicolon at the end the following:

1 “, and on a biannual basis (notwithstanding paragraph  
 2 (6)) submit to the President and to the Committee on  
 3 Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and  
 4 the Committee on Small Business of the House of Rep-  
 5 resentatives a report containing a description of, and the  
 6 status of, such initiatives, policies, programs, and plans”.

## 7 **TITLE II—WOMEN’S BUSINESS** 8 **CENTERS**

### 9 **SEC. 201. REVISED FUNDING FORMULA.**

10 Section 29(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.  
 11 656(b)) is amended to read as follows:

12 “(b) **AUTHORITY.**—

13 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator may  
 14 provide financial assistance to private nonprofit or-  
 15 ganizations to conduct projects for the benefit of  
 16 small business concerns owned and controlled by  
 17 women. The projects shall provide—

18 “(A) financial assistance, including train-  
 19 ing and counseling in how to apply for and se-  
 20 cure business credit and investment capital,  
 21 preparing and presenting financial statements,  
 22 and managing cash flow and other financial op-  
 23 erations of a business concern;

24 “(B) management assistance, including  
 25 training and counseling in how to plan, orga-

1 nize, staff, direct, and control each major activ-  
2 ity and function of a small business concern;  
3 and

4 “(C) marketing assistance, including train-  
5 ing and counseling in identifying and seg-  
6 menting domestic and international market op-  
7 portunities, preparing and executing marketing  
8 plans, developing pricing strategies, locating  
9 contract opportunities, negotiating contracts,  
10 and utilizing varying public relations and adver-  
11 tising techniques.

12 “(2) TIERS.—The Administrator shall provide  
13 assistance under paragraph (1) in three tiers of as-  
14 sistance as follows:

15 “(A) The first tier shall be to conduct a 5-  
16 year project in a situation where a project has  
17 not previously been conducted. Such a project  
18 shall be in a total amount of not more than  
19 \$150,000 per year.

20 “(B) The second tier shall be to conduct a  
21 3-year project in a situation where a first-tier  
22 project is being completed. Such a project shall  
23 be in a total amount of not more than  
24 \$100,000 per year.

1           “(C) The third tier shall be to conduct a  
2           3-year project in a situation where a second-tier  
3           project is being completed. Such a project shall  
4           be in a total amount of not more than  
5           \$100,000 per year. Third-tier grants are renew-  
6           able subject to established eligibility criteria as  
7           well as criteria in subsection (b)(4).

8           “(3) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts  
9           made available for assistance under this subsection,  
10          the Administrator shall allocate—

11           “(A) at least 40 percent for first-tier  
12          projects under paragraph (2)(A);

13           “(B) 20 percent for second-tier projects  
14          under paragraph (2)(B); and

15           “(C) the remainder for third-tier projects  
16          under paragraph (2)(C).

17          “(4) BENCHMARKS FOR THIRD-TIER  
18          PROJECTS.—In awarding third-tier projects under  
19          paragraph (2)(C), the Administrator shall use  
20          benchmarks based on socio-economic factors in the  
21          community and on the performance of the applicant.  
22          The benchmarks shall include—

23           “(A) the total number of women served by  
24          the project;

1 “(B) the proportion of low income women  
 2 and socio-economic distribution of clients served  
 3 by the project;

4 “(C) the proportion of individuals in the  
 5 community that are socially or economically dis-  
 6 advantaged (based on median income);

7 “(D) the future fundraising and service co-  
 8 ordination plans;

9 “(E) the diversity of services provided; and

10 “(F) regional distribution within the 10  
 11 districts of the Administration.”.

12 **SEC. 202. MATCHMAKING FORMULA CHANGE.**

13 Section 29(c)(1) of the Small Business Act (15  
 14 U.S.C. 656(c)(1)) is amended—

15 (1) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B); and

16 (2) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(A) For the first and second years of the  
 18 project, 1 non-Federal dollar for each 2 Federal  
 19 dollars.

20 “(B) Each year after the second year of  
 21 the project—

22 “(i) 1 non-Federal dollar for each  
 23 Federal dollar; or

24 “(ii) if the center is in a community  
 25 at least 50 percent of the population of

1                   which is below the median income, 1 non-  
 2                   Federal dollar for each 2 Federal dollars.”.

3 **SEC. 203. TERMINATION OF FUNDING.**

4           Section 29(c) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.  
 5 656(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

6                   “(5) TERMINATION.—An organization that has  
 7           conducted a project under this subsection—

8                   “(A) is not eligible to conduct another such  
 9           project; and

10                   “(B) may continue thereafter to use the  
 11           women’s business center logo only with the con-  
 12           sent of the Administrator.”.

13 **SEC. 204. WOMEN’S BUSINESS CENTER AWARDS TO BE**  
 14 **MADE PUBLIC.**

15           Section 29(g)(2)(B)(ii)(V) of the Small Business Act  
 16 (15 U.S.C. 656(g)(2)(B)(ii)(V)) is amended by inserting  
 17 before the semicolon at the end the following: “, and make  
 18 available to the public the award made to each applicant  
 19 so selected”.

○